

CLAIMS

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1. Surgical reamer formed from several flat blades assembled together by means of slots (6, 7, 8, 9, 10) wherein the longitudinal axis of symmetry is coincident with the axis of rotation (20) of the reamer, characterised in that it comprises at least four blades (1, 2, 3, 4) and that at least one of the slots and/or sections of said slot or slots has a different width from that of at least one other slot and/or section of a slot.

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2. Reamer according to claim 1, characterised in that it comprises four blades (1, 2, 3, 4), the first of which (1) has at least one slot (6) which runs from the lower edge (5) of the blade, of which the second blade (2) has at least one slot (7) running from the top (13) of the blade, each of said slots (6, 7) having, at least in one section, a width corresponding to the thickness of the blade into which is fitted the other slot, in which the third blade (3) has at least one upper slot (8) running from the top (13) of said third blade and at least one lower slot (9) running from the lower edge (5) of said third blade, the width of said upper slot (8) being greater than the width of said lower slot (9), and of which the fourth blade (4) has at least one slot (10) running from the top (13) of said blade, said slot (10) comprising at least one outer section (11) and one inner section (12), the width of said outer section (11) being greater than the width of said inner section (12), the width of the lower slot (9) of the third blade (3) corresponding to the thickness of the fourth blade (4), the width of the inner section (12) of the slot (10) of the fourth blade (4) corresponding to the thickness of the third blade (3), and the width of the upper slot (8) of the third blade (3) and the outer section (11) of the fourth blade (4) being the same and such that, once fitted together, the first two blades can be inserted into said upper slot (8) of the third blade (3) and into the outer section (11) of the fourth blade (4), said third and fourth blades being themselves fitted together.



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3. Reamer according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the slot (6) of the first blade (1) has at least two sections (11, 12) of different widths, the outer section (11) being wider than the inner section (12).

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4. Reamer according to one of the claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the second blade (2) has at least one lower slot (9) running from its lower edge (5), said lower slot being wider than the slot (7) which runs from the top (13) of the blade.

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5. Reamer according to one of the claims 1 to 4, characterised in that it comprises at least one rigidifying element (14, 15) which partially encircles and holds together the blades making up the reamer.

- 6 Reamer according to claim 5, characterised in that the rigidifying element is a cylindrical bushing (15).

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11. Reamer according to claim 5, characterised in that the rigidifying element is a flat ring (15) with notches (17) into which the blades are inserted.

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8. Blade for a reamer according to one of the claims 1 to 7, characterised in that it comprises at least one slot (6, 7, 8, 9, 10) wherein the longitudinal axis of symmetry is coincident with the axis of rotation (20) of the reamer, a rounded cutting part (18), and a lower part (19) which is narrower than the cutting part.

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9. Blade for a reamer according to one of the claims 1 to 8, characterised in that it comprises at least one slot with sections of different widths.

10. Blade according to claim 9, characterised in that it comprises an upper slot (10)

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running from the top (13) of the cutting part (16) and a lower slot (9) running from the lower edge (5), the width of the upper slot (10) being different from the width of the lower slot (9).

11. Blade according to claim 10, characterised in that one of said upper (10) or lower (9) slots comprises at least one outer section (11) and one inner section (12), the width of the outer section (11) being greater than the width of the inner section (12).

I, the undersigned Clare Keller, lawfully appointed and sworn translator for the Republic and Canton of Neuchâtel, hereby certify that the foregoing document is a true and exact translation of the French text presented to me.

In WITNESS WHEREOF I hereby set my hand and seal at Boudry this 11th day of May 2006.

Clare Keller, BA, C.E

Sworn Translator

